

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/685,689

Examiner

Maribel Medina

Applicant(s)

KNASIAK, GARY

Art Unit

1754

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to paper filed on 10/14/2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-22.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____

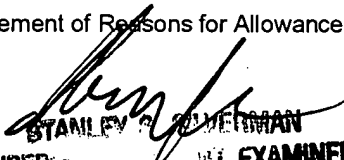
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 4/19/2004
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


STANLEY A. SILVERMAN
SUPERVISOR
EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1700

Notice of Allowability

Reasons for Allowance

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 1-22 are allowable upon consideration of the prior art.

The closest prior art are US 6,329,487 B1 (Abel et al) and US 5,196,556 (Vaahs et al). Both references are directed to the production of silazanes and/or polysilazanes, and by-products (i.e. ammonia and ammonium halide salt) in an ammonolysis reaction.

Vaahs et al disclose that the ammonia escapes and that part of the ammonium halide sublimes during the ammonolysis reaction or that any remaining ammonium halide is separated from the desired product by solvent extraction(See col. 2, lines 40-50).

Abel et al disclose separating the ammonia from the ammonium halide by passing the by-products through an evaporation chamber to evaporate the ammonia therein. (See col. 15, lines 1-6).

Neither of the cited references disclose or suggest the steps of: (ii) forming a reaction mixture by introducing to the ammonolysis by-product, a liquid selected from the group consisting of water, a solution comprising a strong base and an acid; and (iii) reacting said reaction mixture resulting in a solution comprising at least ammonium hydroxide and a metal halide salt and/or ammonium halide salt. Nor there is any motivation in the prior art to do so.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Art Unit: 1754

Conclusion

2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

a. US 4,713,231 (Campbell et al) disclose a method for the recovery of ammonia and fluoride values from ammonium fluoride solutions.


b. US 5,746,993 (Mullee) disclose a process for the manufacture of ultra pure ammonium hydroxide.

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Maribel Medina whose telephone number is (571) 272-1355.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stanley Silverman can be reached on (571) 272-1358. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Maribel Medina 
Examiner
Art Unit 1754